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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KIHARA et al

Serial No. 10/575,097

Filed:

April 10, 2006

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Atty. Ref.: 1114-232

Group:

1756

Examiner:

Unknown

For:

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Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

	All listed	documents	are	attache	b
1 1	I All listed	documents	arc	attacii	

Copies of U.S. Patent Publications are not required and are not attached.

Listed foreign patent publications and other documents are enclosed.

The partial translations were provided to the undersigned by the applicants' foreign representative. The undersigned has no knowledge regarding the pertinency of the partially translated portions vis-á-vis the document as a whole. The partial translations are merely provided for whatever convenience they may be.

W.S. Patent 3,824,099 corresponds to the JP 52-4188 reference; U.S. Patens 4,278,747 and 4,367,273 correspond to the JP 54-150128 reference; U.S. Patent 4,150,987 corresponds to the JP 55-42380; U.S. Patent 4,338,388 corresponds to the 55-52063 reference; U.S. patent 4,123,269 corresponds to the JP 58-32372 reference; U.S. Patent 4,859,556 corresponds to the JP 58-198043 reference; U.S. Publication 2003/0021612 corresponds to the JP 2003-76050 reference; U.S. Publication 2002/0045116 corresponds to the JP 2002-82465 reference; and U.S. Publication 2004/0101770 corresponds to the JP 2004-15166 reference.

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The listed documents were cited in the ISR. Applicants submit herewith copies of the references cited in the ISR and cited in the application.

This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Respectfully submitted, NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

January 8, 2007

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Reg. No. 29,366

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